



# *THE HOUSE SPECIAL*

Volume XXVII, No. 7

[www.shuoa.org](http://www.shuoa.org)

July 2005



**Board of Directors  
President, Johnnie Moore**

The façade repair project work for this year is expected to take as much as 30 days longer to complete due to setbacks caused by weather. Otherwise the project is proceeding as expected. Management is preparing to issue specifications for bids on the project to repair the pavement in the circle at the main lobby. When that work begins, there will be some inconvenience to residents as the circle will be closed and visitors will have to turn around in front of the entry to the West Building. Management will keep residents well informed as this project develops.

The Treasurer's report continues to reflect a healthy and solvent fiscal status for the SHUOA. We continue to have a vacancy on the Security and Safety Committee for the position of Chairperson. I strongly encourage you to consider getting involved in the operation of Skyline House by volunteering to fill this position.



**General Manager  
Gusbey Silva**

## **West Building North & South Façade Restoration:**

The pouring of the new concrete on the south wall tiers 02, 03, 04, 05 and on the north wall tier 07 have been completed. The removal of the form boards on these tiers started on Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. After all the boards are removed, the ceiling restoration contractor will repair the damage on the ceiling above the windows, and if it is necessary, the Association painters will paint the ceiling and/or window sills as needed.

Mobilization to the remaining tiers: 06, 08, and 09 is scheduled to start during the first week of August, and the demolition phase of these tiers should be completed by the middle of September.

This project is now behind schedule approximately one month due to the increase in quantity of repairs needed and 13 lost work days due to inclement weather.

Residents have been taking advantage of the party rooms for peace and quiet while the drilling is going on. Management was informed by one of our residents that wearing head phones (like the ones used for CD players and/or ear muffs like the ones sold at Home Depot to be used on construction sites ((a \$10.00 item)) will reduce the noise significantly allowing you to stay at home during the demolition time.

### **OFFICE DIRECTORS**

|                |  |        |          |
|----------------|--|--------|----------|
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|                | <a href="mailto:johnniemoore@worldnet.att.net">johnniemoore@worldnet.att.net</a> |        |          |
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| DIRECTOR       | Toska Prather  | 1003W  | 379-7849 |
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| DIRECTOR       | Maria E. Schacknies  | 1302W  | 820-2239 |
|                | <a href="mailto:cultura@att.net">cultura@att.net</a>                             |        |          |

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS/CO-CHAIRS**

#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

|                 |  |        |          |
|-----------------|--|--------|----------|
| COVENANTS,      | Joseph Livingston  | 814 W  | 931-6923 |
| FINANCIAL MGT,  | Wynfred Joshua   | 1414W  | 820-4471 |
|                 | <a href="mailto:diawin@metronets.com">diawin@metronets.com</a> |        |          |
| PHYS PLANT/OPS, | George Beams   | 710 E  | 578-9507 |
|                 | and Kurt Bedenbaugh  | 1004 E | 671-8930 |
| RECREATION,     | Tony DiSalvo   | 502 E  | 824-1958 |

#### **SEC/FIRE & SAFETY,**

### **MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Gusbey Silva, General Manager             | <a href="mailto:gusbey@shuoa.org">gusbey@shuoa.org</a>       |
| Darryl Hall, Deputy General Manager       | <a href="mailto:darryl@shuoa.org">darryl@shuoa.org</a>       |
| Greg Grimm, Chief Engineer                | <a href="mailto:greg@shuoa.org">greg@shuoa.org</a>           |
| Tycia Haight, Bookkeeper:                 | <a href="mailto:tycia@shuoa.org">tycia@shuoa.org</a>         |
| Tania Saib, Resident Services Coordinator | <a href="mailto:taniasa@shuoa.org">taniasa@shuoa.org</a>     |
| Terezinha Renosto, Admin. Assistant       | <a href="mailto:terezinha@shuoa.org">terezinha@shuoa.org</a> |

### **CHIEF WEB DEVELOPER**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Joyce Routt | <a href="mailto:jlroutt@metronets.com">jlroutt@metronets.com</a> |
|-------------|--|

### **EDITOR**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Louise Albin | <a href="mailto:lalbin2@metronets.com">lalbin2@metronets.com</a> |
|--------------|--|

### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

*THE HOUSE SPECIAL* welcomes brief comments from its readers. Limit your letters to 250 words or less and include your name and unit number. The Association Board reserves the right to refuse incorrect or improper statements. Committee reports must be submitted to the Editor by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month or NLT 3 days after mtg.

Information for *THE HOUSE SPECIAL* may be sent by e-mail to the Editor, dropped off at the Management office or the reception desk.

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### **Pool Overhaul Project:**

The pool overhaul contractor provided us with four pool floating lights to be placed in the pool after the pool closes at 8:00 p.m. These lights are rechargeable battery operated and the charge will last for four to five hours, allowing the pool to remain lit until approximately midnight. The lights are being placed in the pool forming an inner square to allow their light to project evenly. According to the light manufacturer's specifications, two lights should have been sufficient for our pool size; however, we requested four lights to compensate for the original six interior pool lights that were removed during the construction. Residents on the south and center walls of both buildings can appreciate their light projection late at night. Management is now in the process of determining if more lights are needed. If this is the case, additional lights will be purchased in the near future.

### **Circle – Concrete Drive Renovation:**

During the month of July 2005, Management will present to the respective Committees and to the Board of Directors the results of the proposals solicited for the renovation of the concrete drive/circle in front of the lobby entrance. These proposals will include prices to remove and replace completely the concrete drive with either new concrete or with driving pavers; the price will include the removal and replacement of only the damaged concrete.

Management has already obtained a proposal for the replacement of the circle landscaping based on a design provided by the Landscaper Designer.

### **Carpet Replacement:**

The carpet on levels P1 and P2 of the West Building garage elevator lobbies has been replaced. We selected a darker color to avoid dark stains caused by dirt tracked in from the garage during rain and/or snow days.

After the pool season is over and the pool deck recoating is completed, the mezzanine level carpet will be replaced with the same carpeting.



## **Financial Management Committee Wynfred Joshua**

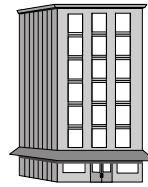
The Financial Management Committee met on June 20, 2005. Total income for the month of May was \$284,885 with expenditures of \$168,262. Total income less expenditures amounted to \$116,623. The total Reserve Contributions were \$94,746, leaving a net income before taxes of \$21,877. Issues questioned were satisfactorily explained by the General Manager.

There was no new business, but the Committee checked on two projects which it had approved in previous sessions. It first raised the issue of the lights in the swimming pool. The General Manager explained that the current floating lights would be tethered to a wire in order to keep them relatively stationary in appropriately selected spots and prevent them from gathering in one corner. Once this had been achieved, an assessment would be made as to how many lights would be needed. The Committee reminded the General Manager that sufficient lights should be used to satisfy aesthetic as well as safety requirements.

The Committee also discussed the repaving of the front entrance circular drive. The FMC had earlier endorsed a proposal for having the consulting engineer prepare the specifications, handle the bidding, and oversee the project. The Committee stressed the need for sufficient capacity in the electrical wiring under the driveway that could accommodate additional lighting and other electric power requirements. The Committee understood that Skyline House engineers could do the electrical work once the driveway had been opened. The General Manager stated, however, that the contract specifications had been changed to include the requirement that the contractor would be responsible for ensuring availability of additional electrical capacity. The FMC recommended to the Board that it might wish to review the possibility of accomplishing the additional wiring in-house.

At the subsequent Board meeting, the Board noted that the electrical wiring was a separate issue from the rest of the project. The contractor, however, would have to be responsible for having a pipe in the ground large enough to accommodate whatever wiring was needed. The Board instructed the General Manager to add a clause to this effect to the specifications.

The next FMC meeting will be on Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Card Room. We welcome guests and prospective new members. We strongly urge any interested resident to attend.



## **Physical Plant And Operations Committee George Beams And Kurt Bedenbaugh**

The Committee met at 7:00 p.m. on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Two main items of business were presented and recommended for approval to the Board from Gardner James Engineering, Inc., our consulting engineers, for:

1. The building entrance concrete driveway repair and replacement specifications to improve and restore concrete pavement, concrete curb, sealant joint installation, curb and gutter painting; and
2. Revised specifications for pool deck recoating of the pool's shell.

A motion was passed by the PPOC to recommend to the Board to put a line item in the budget to finish the garage painting project, which was started for maintenance and safety to improve visibility to vehicles, security, and preserve the concrete wall surfaces.

The Committee meets the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome.

## Security, Fire and Safety Committee



The Security Fire and Safety Committee did not meet in June; however, we are pleased to announce that the installation of two new cameras at the garage entrance will take place and be operational very soon. These interior/exterior cameras will face the garage entrance door and will add an additional level of security monitoring/recording the door operation as well as incoming traffic.

We would like to remind everyone that security is everybody's business. Be involved in your neighborhood; introduce yourself to your neighbors; know your neighborhood and its surroundings, and report all suspicious persons and activity to the police.

We invite you to join your neighbors in keeping your community safe by joining the Security Fire and Safety Committee. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Card Room. Please plan to attend. Currently, the Security Fire and Safety Committee is without a chairperson. If you would like to Chair this Committee, please contact the President of the Board of Directors, Mr. Johnnie Moore, at the listed information. Your volunteerism is greatly appreciated.



## Covenants Committee Joseph Livingston, Chairman

Members of the Covenants Committee and the ad hoc Election Committee are working to complete a review and possible revision of the Association's Election Procedures for the election of members of the Board of Directors. We anticipate that the review and possible revision will be forwarded to the Board not later than August 31, 2005 for its action.

Covenant Committee members and all unit owners are encouraged to attend the next meeting of

the Committee on July 20<sup>th</sup>. We plan to discuss the proposed changes of the Election Procedures. Your involvement is important.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Covenants Committee meeting Wednesday, July 20, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Card Room.



## Neighborhood Watch Judith York, Coordinator

Neighborhood Watch volunteers patrol the East and West Buildings of Skyline House and make notes on the monitoring form or in the maintenance book located at the front desk. Forms completed by the Neighborhood Watch volunteers are given to the Management office for corrective action, but there is only so much Management can do. We continue to find unlocked doors on the Penthouse levels. Skyline House's attractive appearance is marred by trash in the flower beds near the lobby and by the bus stop. We, as a community, must police ourselves, our children, and our guests in order to have a safe, clean environment to live in.

Upcoming meetings at the Mason District Police Station are: (a) Citizens' Advisory Committee on July 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. (b) Neighborhood Watch Coordinators' Meetings – September 6<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m., and (c) Open Training Sessions on October 4<sup>th</sup>, and December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.; everyone is welcome to attend these meetings.

Please check the folder at the front desk for June's Mason District Newsletter, which includes information on the August 2<sup>nd</sup> "National Night Out." This is held once a year and is America's Night Out against crime. Last year's National Night Out brought out officials from over 10,000 communities, from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide. Many communities have watch patrol officers gather for a flashlight walk through their areas. There is also information on dangerous dogs in Fairfax County, the owner's name, address,

description of the dog and whether the victim was a human being or animal – see [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/ac/dangerous-dogs-2005.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/ac/dangerous-dogs-2005.pdf).

Our buildings are not unusual in having repairs or new additions – check out the Wilson Bridge Project by phoning the following people: Michelle Holland, 703/329-0300 and John Undeland, (cell) 571/237-2690, and Joan Morris of VDOT 703/383-2465 (cell) 571/238-5030 for local traffic changes. In Virginia, the Wilson Bridge project has added five VA State Troopers, 24 hours a day, 5 days a week, and officers will enforce speed limits (violation fines can reach upwards of \$500). There are also additional motorist safety patrols observing traffic while the project is underway.

Several traffic pattern changes are being implemented in July and August when traffic is lighter due to summer vacations and schools being closed.

I would like to once again send a sincere thanks to all of the Neighborhood Watch volunteers who continue to help make our community a safe place to live.

If you are interested in obtaining a healthy heart, getting great exercise, and helping to keep Skyline House a safe place to live, join our Neighborhood Watch. The T-shirt is free and the reward is priceless.

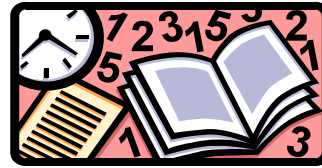


**The Chief Engineer  
Greg Grimm**

Skyline House now has available a modification for your entry door viewer, increasing visibility through your door into the corridor. This modification changes the viewer to a clearer, wider viewing angle.

In-unit maintenance can change the viewer in your door for a flat fee of \$25.00, or change the entire doorbell assembly for \$50.00 including parts and labor.

If you have an interest in this modification, contact the Management Office to make an appointment for the change.



**Editor  
Louise Albin**

**"Alexandria Singers"  
Present Retro Revue or  
Everything Old is New Again.**

*New Time, New Place. Same Great  
Entertainment!!!*

*Saturday, July 9 at 8:00 p.m. &*

*Sunday July 10 at 2:00 p.m.*

*Bishop Ireton High School*

*201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria*

*(703) 941-7464*

Reserved seats (all ages): \$20 each

Adults (general seating): \$15 each

Seniors (60+) Students, Groups

(15+) Or Active Military: \$10 each

Children (age 6 & under): \$5 each.

**Hear Yesterday's and Today's Greatest  
Hits from Broadway and the Movies, featuring  
Music from *The Phantom of the Opera*,  
*Hairspray*, *Sweet Charity*, *Mamma Mia!*, AND  
Songs by George Gershwin, Cole Porter,  
Rogers & Hammerstein, and MORE!!**

**Upcoming Performances**

**June 16 – Market Square, Alexandria –  
7:30 p.m.**

**August 12 - Kingstown Town Center –  
7:30 p.m.**

**September 10-11 – Alexandria Arts  
Festival Market Square, Alexandria**

Visit our web site for more concert information,  
photos & sound bytes!





**Recreation Committee**  
**Tony DiSalvo**  
**Chairman**

Nothing new to report at this time! The next TGIF is Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. in the East Party Room. This is one week later than the first Friday because of the July 4th Weekend.

If you are a resident and have not attended the monthly TGIF, make this your first and meet your neighbors. To make it easier, you are requested NOT to bring a plate of hors d'oeuvres, just your own liquid refreshment.

The August TGIF will be Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the West Party Room.



**Good Neighbors Committee**  
**Co-Chairs**  
**Toska Prather 703-379-7849**  
**Ernest Loyola 703-671-0384**

**Good Neighbors for July 2005:**

**Helen and Law Henderson 703-578-0189**  
**Belen Eliot 703-671-7045**

The Good Neighbors are available to assist all residents who are in need of temporary help due to illness or emergency. We always welcome new members to assist those in need. If you are interested in serving your neighbors, call one of the co-chairs listed above and join us.

News from Supervisor Penny Gross  
Mason District , 6507 Columbia Pike  
Annandale, VA 22003  
Tel. 703-256-7717, Fax 703-354-8419  
Email: mason@fairfaxcounty.gov

**2005 Fairfax County Farmers' Market:**

The Farmers' Market returned to Mason District on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, with some new features! This year the Market has added dairy products, eggs, and

meat. Along with these new additions, residents will continue to find fresh vegetables, fruits, baked goods, potted plants, and cut flowers. The Market also features a Master Gardener Plant Clinic from 9:00 a.m. – Noon. You can visit the Annandale Farmers' Market at the Mason District Park at 6621 Columbia Pike every Thursday from May 5<sup>th</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. For information and directions call 703-642-0128 or visit the web at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farm-mkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farm-mkt.htm).

**The following thoughts was submitted by Ernest Loyola:**

*Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.*

*It's strange how unimportant your job is when you're asking for a raise, but how important it can be when you want to take a day off.*

*There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about.*

*Under the head of stimulants and narcotics is classed a great variety of articles that, altogether used as food or drink, irritate the stomach, poison the blood, and excite the nerves.*

*Never feel self-pity, the most destructive emotion there is. How awful to be caught up in the terrible squirrel cage of self.*

*Make it a point to do something every day that you don't want to do. This is the golden rule for acquiring the habit of doing your duty without pain.*

*I would rather fail in a cause that will ultimately succeed than succeed in a cause that will ultimately fail.*

*The one-talent man was the only one who took no risks...and he lost all.*

*When right, you can afford to keep your temper; when wrong, you cannot afford to lose it.*

*Life is made up, not of great sacrifices or duties, but of little things, in which smiles and kindnesses and small obligations, given habitually are what win and preserve the heart and secure comfort. Consider how hard it is to change yourself and you'll understand what little chance you have of trying to change others.*

# ***SPECIAL EVENTS AT SKYLINE HOUSE July 2005***

| <b>SUN</b> | <b>MON</b>  | <b>TUE</b> | <b>WED</b>                                 | <b>THU</b>                            | <b>FRI</b>                            | <b>SAT</b> |
|------------|---|------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
|            |   |            |  |                                       | <b>1</b>                              | <b>2</b>   |
| <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b><br><br>LIBRARY<br>CLOSED   | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b>                                   | <b>7</b>                              | <b>8</b><br><br>TGIF<br>6:30-8:00 EPR | <b>9</b>   |
| <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b><br><br>LIBRARY OPEN<br>7:00-8:00 ECR                                  | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b><br><br>SECURITY<br>700-8:00 WCR  | <b>14</b><br><br>PPOC<br>700-8:00 WCR | <b>15</b>                             | <b>16</b>  |
| <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b><br><br>FINANCIAL<br>700-8:00 WCR<br><br>LIBRARY OPEN<br>7:00-8:00 ECR | <b>19</b>  | <b>20</b><br><br>COVENANTS<br>700-8:00 WCR | <b>21</b>                             | <b>22</b>                             | <b>23</b>  |
| <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b><br><br>LIBRARY OPEN<br>7:00-8:00 ECR                                  | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b><br><br>BOARD<br>7:00-8:00 WCR    | <b>28</b>                             | <b>29</b>                             | <b>30</b>  |
| <b>31</b>  |   |            |  |                                       |                                       |            |

**Skyline House Unit Owners' Association, Inc.,  
3711 South George Mason Drive  
Falls Church VA 22041-3711**